

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 VALLET 01599 021425Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03  
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-20 TRSE-00  
/093 W

-----050682 040127Z /73

R 021414Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8225  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
USMISSION USNATO  
USNMR SHAPE BE

UNCLAS VALLETTA 01599

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, MT  
SUBJECT: GOM MINISTER ON MALTESE NEUTRALITY

1. DURING MAY 31 DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT ON THE DEVELOPMENT  
PLAN (SUPPLEMENT) BILL, MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT WISTIN  
ABELA COMMENTED ON THE GOM'S RATIONALE FOR ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE FROM ABROAD. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS REPORTS,  
ABELA ASSERTED THAT THE GOM IS REQUESTING ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE FROM THOSE COUNTRIES THAT ARE GOING TO  
"BENEFIT FROM MALTA'S NEUTRAL STATUS" BECAUSE THESE  
COUNTRIES HAVE "A DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR SHARE" TOWARD  
THE MAINTENANCE OF THIS NEUTRALITY. ABELA WENT ON TO  
SAY THAT THE GOM DOES NOT WANT TO SIDE WITH ANY BLOC OF  
POWERS BUT TO COLLABORATE WITH EVERYONE AND THAT THE  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 VALLET 01599 021425Z

GOM "HAD ALREADY RECEIVED A LOT FROM THE UNITED STATES AND  
A DELEGATION WOULD BE COMING FROM RUSSIA TO STUDY WAYS  
OF COMMERCIAL COOPERATION". THE GOM IS AGAINST ANY BLOC  
"DICTATING" TO MALTA AND "IT NOW APPEARED" THAT EVEN  
NATO APPRECIATED THE SINCERITY OF THE GOVERNMENT ON THIS  
POINT. MALTA SOUGHT FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL BUT WAS AGAINST  
DOMINATION BY THE MAJOR POWERS.

2. ACCORDING TO ABELA, THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN HAS TWO MAIN OBJECTIVES. THE FIRST IS TO CONSTRUCT A SOCIALIST SOCIETY IN WHICH THE STRONG WOULD HELP THE WEAK, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY WOULD BE OPEN FOR ALL, INDIVIDUAL ABILITY WOULD BE RECOGNIZED, AND WORKERS WOULD PARTICIPATE IN RUNNING THE COUNTRY. SLOWLY BUT SURELY THIS OBJECTIVE WAS BEING ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH EVOLUTION AND WITHOUT REVOLUTION. THE SECOND OBJECTIVE IS TO RID MALTA OF DOMINATION BY THE FOREIGNER AFTER MARCH, 1979 AND THE GOVERNMENT VOWS "NOT TO ALLOW ANY OTHER FOREIGN DOMINATION".

3. COMMENT: ABELA, ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL MINISTERS IN THE GOM, SPEAKS AUTHORITATIVELY FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND MINTOFF ON THESE POINTS. HIS STATEMENT PROVIDES THE MOST RECENT INSTANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S RATIONALE FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM ABROAD AND THE GOM'S STRONGLY EXPRESSED INTENTION TO MAINTAIN A NEUTRAL STATUS AFTER MARCH, 1979. LAINGEN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, DEBATES, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978VALLET01599  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780233-0494  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** VALLETTA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t197806100/aaaadibm.tel  
**Line Count:** 82  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** e214077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2135864  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOM MINISTER ON MALTESE NEUTRALITY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EAID, ECON, MT, (ABELA, WISTIN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/e214077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014